

Announcing the Combined Arms Center (CAC)
2007-2008 General William E. Depuy
Special Topics Writing Competition:

**“Actions Required to Attain Overall Objectives in the
Aftermath of Combat Operations”**

The Combined Arms Center (CAC), Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, is pleased to announce its third annual Commanding General's Special Topics Writing Competition. The focus of this year's competition will be activities required to attain overall operational and strategic objectives after the conclusion of major combat operations.

Anyone conducting serious research on issues related to peacemaking operations, stabilization, reconstruction, nation-building, amnesty and reconciliation, et cetera is invited to submit papers for consideration.

A list of topics of the kind that are relevant is attached as enclosure 3.

CAC will announce the competition results in July 2008.

The 2008 competition is now open.

How do I enter?

- Submit an unclassified, original research paper on any topic examining issues related to post-combat operations. Papers generally should not exceed 5,000 words, though well-developed manuscripts of extraordinary merit that somewhat exceed this limit will be considered.

- Previously published papers, or papers pending consideration for publication elsewhere, are ineligible.

- Papers submitted to other competitions still pending announced decisions are also ineligible. (As an exception to this rule, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College students submitting papers to the General Douglas MacArthur Military Leadership Writing Competition may submit the same paper to the Commanding General's Competition. Thus it is possible for a single paper to be recognized by both competitions.)

What do winning writers receive?

First Place: Award of \$1,000 / Certificate of recognition signed by the commanding general / Publication as a featured essay in *Military Review*, the U.S. Army's Professional Journal.

Second Place: Award of \$500 / Certificate of recognition signed by the commanding general / Publication in *Military Review*.

Third Place: Award of \$250 / Certificate of recognition signed by the commanding general / Publication in *Military Review*.

Fourth Place: Award of \$250 / Certificate of recognition signed by the commanding general / Special consideration for publication in *Military Review*.

Honorable Mention: Award of \$100 / Certificate of recognition signed by the commanding general / Consideration for publication in *Military Review*.

How do you submit a paper?

- Complete an enrollment form (see enclosure 1) and submit it together with the proposed manuscript via e-mail or in hard copy with a CD to *Military Review* by 2 June 2008. Email: leav-milrevweb@conus.army.mil. Mail: *Military Review* / 294 Grant St. / Fort Leavenworth, KS 66027-1254.

How will the papers be evaluated and judged?

- *Military Review* will establish a panel to evaluate entries. The panel will be composed of members of the U.S. Army's Combined Arms Center staff and faculty, as well as invited readers with expertise in the subject area.

- General criteria to be used for evaluating papers are attached (see enclosure 2).

Need a topic?

- See enclosure 3 for some suggestions.

Questions?

- The managing editor, *Military Review*, will answer any questions you might have. He can be reached by telephone at (913) 684-9330 or DSN 552-9330; or via email at leav-milrevweb@conus.army.mil.

ENCLOSURE 1 (Enrollment Form)

MEMORANDUM FOR Managing Editor, *Military Review*

SUBJECT: The 2007-2008 Combined Arms Center Commanding General's Special Topics Writing Competition

1. Attached is my research paper submission for the CAC Commanding General's 2007-2008 Special Topics Writing Competition.
2. The subject of my paper is_____.
3. I affirm that the research paper is my original work. I further affirm that no part of it has been plagiarized from other sources; that all references to other work have been properly and fully attributed; that it has not been previously published; that it is not now being considered elsewhere for publication; and that it is not currently pending consideration as an entry in any other competition (with the authorized exception of the Command and General Staff College's General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Competition, as provided for under competition rules.)
4. I understand that if my paper is selected as a winner, the Combined Arms Center may reproduce it for instructional purposes, and *Military Review* will have first right of publication without copyright restrictions.

Signature _____

Printed name _____

Title/Organization_____

ENCLOSURE 2 (Criteria for Judging)

Evaluation is unavoidably a subjective process; however, our panelists will use the questions below to help them evaluate essays more objectively.

- Does the essay offer well-thought-out and well-researched opinions about operations after combat?
- Does the essay contribute anything new to the literature?
- If the essay is not a product of original research, is it an effective synthesis of existing research, and has it yielded significant insight?
- Does the essay offer plausible solutions to or recommendations about a problem or issue?
- If the manuscript is a historical essay, do the issues associated with the historical events described and evaluated have any direct relevance to post-combat operations?
- Does the author of the essay know what he (or she) is talking about? Does the essay fairly represent the background facts and provide a credible examination of the issue?
- Does the essay show evidence of significant research using accepted academic standards, or does it rely significantly on spurious resources?
- Is research backed up by careful footnoting or endnotes?
- Is the essay well written? Does it move logically from a clear thesis through a well- developed argument using supporting evidence to yield persuasive conclusions?
- Is the essay written in an accessible style, or does it give the impression that it has been written to impress rather inform and persuade?
- Does the essay use excessive acronyms or jargon?

Enclosure 3 (Possible Topics)

1. Transitioning from small wars to stability operations.
2. Wartime planning for conflict termination in the current environment: Shaping the outcome of a conflict.
3. What does quality campaigning look like? What are the fundamental principles needed for the operational commander to plan, prepare, execute, and assess a campaign plan? How does the commander link his campaign plan to national policy or the political aims of the conflict?
4. How does the commander link the non-military or interagency elements into his campaign plan to achieve his objectives and our Nation's political aims or policies? What is his relationship to the other elements of national power?
5. Describe the use of full-spectrum operations (offense, defense, and stability) *where the political aim is to reestablish a legitimate form of government in a post-conflict environment?*
6. What is the military's role in fragile, failing, or failed states? How can the military support the achievement of the U.S. Government's policy or political aims in these types of states?
7. How do we convince a resilient enemy to accept defeat in the aftermath of a successful maneuver campaign?
8. Comparing, contrasting, and employing the lessons from constabulary models from various post-war stabilization/insurgency scenarios.
9. Interagency operations: How can we "operationalize" the strategic-level work being done for reconstruction and support?
 - How should the local embassy, USAID, and the military interface?
10. Military governance in the aftermath of conflict: Under what circumstances? How? And for how long?
11. Training foreign military forces: Principles revealed through case studies. "What worked? What didn't work?"
 - Iraqi and Afghan models for forming, equipping, and training both the Iraqi Security Forces and the Afghan National Army.
 - Handoff of units to coalition forces reviewing the individual, advanced, officer, NCO, and enlisted training programs and the integration of collective training events and activities to prepare indigenous forces to accept and execute tasks, responsibilities, and missions.

12. Troop density and mix in stability and support operations: How does one determine what kind of units and skills are needed? And how many?

13. Ethical challenges in stability operations and nation-building.

14. Law enforcement: Role of the military with regard to law enforcement in the immediate aftermath of a conflict. What specific duties are appropriate? For how long? What specific measures are required to effect successful transition from military involvement to civilian control of law enforcement?

15. Principles of police work when dealing with insurgencies during stability operations.

16. Historical comparison and contrast of de-Nazification in Germany post-WWII and de-Baathification of Iraq: Lessons learned.

17. Historical comparison of how national military forces of a defeated nation were vetted and incorporated into new national forces by victorious nation. For example, an historical comparison of how German forces were reconstituted and utilized post-World War II as compared to how Iraqi forces were reconstituted and utilized post initial phases of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

18. The Interagency Process at Work: Case Studies.

19. The Relationship of Military Force and “Soft Power” in the Current and Future World Order.

20. Grace under Pressure: NATO, ISAF, and the Prospect of a Long Conflict in Afghanistan. Implications for the evolution of the Alliance.

21. Failing states, humanitarian intervention, and conflict resolution. An examination of selected post-Cold War humanitarian interventions and their resolutions with implications for force commitments over time.

22. Leader development/training changes necessary to develop both the art and science of battle command across the force.

23. Post-Iraq war Army: The organizational officer’s role in reconstitution.

24. Strategic Redeployment of Forces: Case studies on the redeployment of forces in the context of an ongoing conflict and the politics of conflict redefinition. British withdrawal from Kenya, French withdrawal from Algeria, Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam, Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, U.S. Army exit from the South at the end of Reconstruction.

25. Conflict Termination: Successful and Unsuccessful Transitions from Combat to Dialogue

26. Illegal immigration as an asymmetric weapon

- Albanian conquest of Kosovo
- U.S. conquest of Texas and the Southwestern states
- Chinese patterns of generational conquest by assimilation

27. White hoods and carpetbaggers, 1865-1877: Reconstruction as a case study in flawed conflict termination

28. Alternative approaches to Iran: Eating humble pie and public diplomacy to enlist Iranian support for ending the conflict in Iraq.

29. Application of martial law on the battlefield and after turning the fight over to the State Department.

30. Organizing COIN in a full-spectrum environment: Achieving a “Whole of Government Approach” at regional level with BCTs, MiTTs, PTTs, and provincial reconstruction teams.

31. Detainee operations: Planning considerations and imperatives that can transform detainee operations into a force multiplier.